

described by him. *Proneomenia*, a genus established in 1882 by Hubrecht, includes all the other *Neomenie* described by Koren and Danielssen in the account of the Norwegian North-sea Expedition, besides the type species, *P. Sluiteri* of Hubrecht, and a new species, here noted by the author under the name of *P. filiformis*. This is an important discussion of the characters of some exceedingly curious and obscure forms of animals.

Of the two remaining papers one contains an account of a curious series of experiments by Dr. J. Brunchorst on "Galvanotropism," or the peculiar influence exerted by the galvanic current upon the direction of growth of the roots of plants. This curious paper, which is illustrated with a considerable number of woodcuts, leads up to the following general result:—"The negative galvanotropic curvature depends upon irritant action and is so far analogous to the geotropic and heliotropic movements; while the positive galvanotropic curvature is simply a chemico-pathological phenomenon, having only a purely external analogy with the directional movements of the roots, and therefore does not deserve the name of galvanotropism."

The remaining paper in the volume consists of a long list of earthquake shocks recorded as having occurred in Norway since the year 1758. The number is very considerable, especially of late years, when, probably, a closer observation has been kept upon such phenomena. The author of this article is Mr. T. C. Thomassen, and in his concluding remarks some interesting generalizations will be found.

Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society. New Series, vol. vi. part i. for 1888-89. Pp. 1-164. 8vo. Bristol, 1889.

THE Zoologists have many interesting notes and papers in this part i. of vol. vi. n. s. Thus, the putrefactive organisms, discovered and described by the Rev. Dr. W. H. Dallinger, throughout their wonderful succession of forms, adapted more or less obviously to the dissolution and breaking up of decomposing matter, constitute a subject of great importance both in the elucidation of life and beings, and in explanation of the phenomena of putrefaction and fermentation.

In Entomology, Mr. W. K. Mann notices the rare lepidopterous *Heliothis scutosa* as having been caught in North Somerset; and Mr. G. C. Griffiths treats of Mimicry amongst the Lepidoptera. Snakes, their habits and their reputed power of fascination, are the subjects of two interesting papers by Dr. W. Duncan and Dr. A. J. Harrison. Some Birds exhibited at the meetings are mentioned, three of them rare in this country. Personal and collected observations on the Mole, by Mr. C. I. Trusted, are well worth noting. Mr. G. M. Smith gives a short account of the water-cells in the Camel's stomach. There is also a short but thoughtful note on the "perceptions of animals," by Prof. C. Lloyd Morgan; technically expressed,

“the inferences of animals” are said to be “habitual and intelligent, but not rational.”

Voice, language, and phonetic spelling, especially the advantages of the last, are succinctly but clearly treated by Dr. A. B. Prowse.

For Botany, Mr. J. W. White has “Notes Supplemental to the Flora of the Bristol Coal-field,” and Mr. C. Bucknell gives part xi. of “The Fungi of the Bristol District.” Mr. C. Jeeks offers some good suggestions as to the causes of the difference in the colour between the flowers and foliage of Tropical and of Temperate regions.

Local Geologists and others may well be thankful to Prof. C. Lloyd Morgan for his elucidation of the Geology of Tytherington and Grovesend, illustrated with a geological map and section along the Yate-and-Thornbury branch railway from the Midland Railway on its way to Gloucester. The Old Red Sandstone, the Mountain Limestone, and the Keuper beds constitute the country. Their subdivisions are compared with the strata at Clifton and elsewhere, and their faultings, discordances, and overlaps are carefully described and made to account for some of the physical features of the surface. Mr. T. M. Reade’s work “On Mountain-building” is carefully and favourably reviewed by the Rev. M. B. Saunders.

Meteorological observations are given by Dr. G. F. Burder and Mr. D. Rintoul.

The Engineers have three excellent and most interesting papers:—on Sewage Systems, very fully and thoughtfully, by Mr. A. P. I. Cotterell; on the loading, delivery, and warehousing of Grain in all their details, by Mr. J. M. McCurrieh; and Mr. G. E. Crawford’s short but most noteworthy and technical explanation of the height, foundations, materials, shape, stability, and utility of the Eiffel Tower.

Thus at least five of the several branches of Scientific Research have received attention at Bristol, and some considerable increase of facts, generalizations, and practical application, during the past year; and doubtless these published papers and abstracts will be not only useful as memoranda, but will be good and fertile seed in further cultivation of the several fields of knowledge to which they belong.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

November 6, 1889.—W. T. Blanford, LL.D., F.R.S.,
President, in the Chair.

The following communications were read:—

1. “Contributions to our Knowledge of the Dinosaurs of the Wealden and the Sauropterygians of the Purbeck and Oxford Clay.”
By R. Lydekker, Esq., B.A., F.G.S.

The first section of this paper was devoted to the description of